



20 Years of Aliyah and 4,000 Years of History – Part 2

By Rev. Gary Cristofaro



Thus says the Lord God: “Behold, I will lift My hand in an oath to the nations, and set up My standard for the peoples; They shall bring your sons in their arms, and your daughters shall be carried on their shoulders; Isaiah 49:22

Ezra International believes it has clear instructions from God’s word to help the Jewish people get home to Israel. We have heard the call of God to the nations and if not us who will do it? Who other than His true church will care for His children?

Our representatives and volunteers come from the churches in each of the countries we work. Sadly, when they enter a Jewish home often they are the first representatives from among the church to demonstrate any type of kindness at all. A very sad commentary on the state of the “church” in many of the countries were we work is that they are steeped in “replacement theology” and anti-Semitism. Replacement Theology is the false idea that God replaced the Jewish people and the land of Israel with the “church”. This flawed theology would require our God to be a liar and for Him to be unfaithful to the promise He made to Abraham. Needless to say, our God is faithful and it is impossible for Him to lie.

As I mentioned in part one, not only is there a scriptural mandate to be a blessing to the Jewish people but there also is a judgement for those who mistreat them. Joel Chapter 3:1-2 described a day after the final return when God will judge the nations on account of His people Israel. Joel’s prophecy gives the proper context to the words of Yeshua (Jesus) in Matthew 25:31-46. Yeshua sets the stage by describing the same judgment that Joel describes. The nations are gathered before Him and He is God’s eternal judge. He will separate them as a shepherd separates sheep and goats. Then notice something interesting, He blesses those who have been a blessing to His brethren and curses those who have cursed them even by their lack of concern for His brethren’s needs. Yeshua even uses the same terminology of His Father’s promise to Abraham.

For the past 20 years the needs of the “least of these” has been Ezra International’s highest priority. Thanks to our donors we have been able to help over 53,000 Jewish people get home to Israel and we are currently helping over 50,000 more. The war refugees are **hungry** and we feed them. **Thirsty** and we give them drink. They are **strangers** yet we take them in and house them. They left behind everything, so we give them **clothes** to wear. They were hopeless **prisoners** in their own war-torn cities and we went to them. We bring them out and give them new hope.

The final return is the most often mentioned prophetic event in all of the scriptures. God said He would re-gather His people from the four corners of the earth (Isaiah 11:12) and He is. What is so incredible is that He has offered all of us a chance to be a part of it and in so doing, literally fulfill the words of Yeshua (Jesus).

World conditions are such that more and more Jewish people are returning to Israel. Thus the need to help is increasing also. **Rabbi Hillel said; If I am not for myself, who will be for me? If I am not for others, what am I? And if not now, when?** Now is not the time to grow weary. Now is the time when we are needed most.

Firstly, we acknowledge the faithfulness of God to His 4000-year-old promise. Then, we celebrate 20 years of His faithfulness to provide for our role in this great plan through our generous and loving donors. Finally, we thank God for the continuing privilege to serve Him by serving His people.

As we look ahead, we recognize that the challenges are growing. Yet we also know that God is faithful and will accomplish His purposes on the earth. The needs are great but our God is greater. **Isn’t it amazing how He works through ordinary people to do extraordinary things?**